

To all our Dynamic Running club members, competitors, volunteers and supporters.

The Dynamic Running board and race directors met on 18 March 2020. There are a lot of people and event related businesses facing some very hard times. As Dynamic Running we have developed a plan of action and are in the process of implementing it.

Here's the most important take-aways:

- If you have registered for an event(s), you will be sent a link in an email for you to update us on your intentions. If you have not receive an email by Sunday night, please check your junk folder before you contact us next week.
- All registrations are currently locked. These will re-open on 31 May, if not before.
- The Dynamic Running races set for April and May, including the Dynamic in a Dress, have been postponed.
- We will set dates for our postponed events by 31 May 2020, if not before.
- All the races in the 3 Marathons in 3 Days event have been cancelled.
- K2PD (30 August 2020) has been left intact (at least for the time being). We are considering throwing in another race day on that weekend to entice some of our regular 3M3D mob to transfer to this event.
- The Dynamic Running board agreed to forgo buying any merchandise at this time and hold back on other orders that require upfront payments or long lead in times.

We appreciate that all competitors are entitled to a full refund for any of the events we cancel. That said, these are unprecedented times and we believe that if we can refrain from the rising 'panic' that most of us are experiencing at this time that we can work through this without having to provide blanket mass refunds - while still achieving positive outcomes for our competitors. We aim to be open, honest and transparent with, and provide some practical and attractive options for our competitors, even though this creates more work for our volunteers.

We will be offering our competitors the following options. You can:

1. request a full refund (except for donations),
2. switch to do your event as a 'Virtual Dynamic Runner' (no refund),
3. come along later in the year to run the race, if the event is postponed (no refund),
4. defer to next year's event or to transfer to another of our events (difference in race fees will be taken into account), if the event is cancelled
5. contact us to discuss another option that has not been presented here.

Full refunds will be provided to those who request it up to and including **31 May 2020**. **If an event has been postponed**, we would love for you to NOT cancel, but instead come along on the new race day, or take up the 'Virtual Dynamic Runner' option. It will not only be less work for those of us trying to sort out cancellations, but it will also help us out financially. **If an event has been cancelled**, we highly recommend you either switch to another event or take up the Virtual Dynamic Runner option and claim your medal before you consider requesting a refund. You can, of course also donate your race entry fee to us, to help us out and buffer some of the hardship we will face in terms of lost revenue. Handing out deferrals to the following year makes for unprofitable races, so we would rather not do this.

We use a company called Register Now to collect our registrations. It is important for you to note that Register Now has **not paid** Dynamic Running **ANY of the money** they have collected from any of our events. As Dynamic Running we cannot do any refunds as we don't have the money you've paid for your event. We are currently waiting for Register Now to respond to our email – which was sent on 19 March following the board meeting on 18 March. Bear in mind that they claim to have 1000s of events and hundreds of thousands of cancellations to deal with, so the refund process may only occur after the original race date.

Please note that there is only one 'point of contact' (<http://www.dynamicrunning.com.au/coronavirus/>) in terms of updates and information regarding our response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation. If you can't find the answer to your question, feel free to email us (info@dynamicrunning.com.au). Please refrain from leaving voicemails, sending text message, asking questions on Facebook or sending requests via messenger. This really slows down our communications as we have to devote time to respond to you when most of the questions have already been addressed via our FAQ section on our website.

Okay, I'm not done yet.

Over a very short time period, unprecedented measures have been taken in Australia and in nearly every other country in the world to slow down the spread of CORVID-19. In the world of marathons, the Tokyo Marathon was cancelled for non-elite runners. Paris and Rome cancelled their marathons, while Boston and London have postponed theirs until later in the year. Closer to home the Canberra Running Festival and Cairns Ironman have been postponed and the Brisbane Running Festival cancelled.

You will appreciate that the COVID-19 pandemic is significantly changing the landscape of not only mass participation events but also that of the local grassroots clubs like Dynamic Running.

So, how about those of us living up here in Cairns and the role of Dynamic Running in our community? As of 19 March 2020 there was one reported case of CORVID-19 in Cairns. Dynamic Running Ltd. takes the safety and health of our community in Cairns very seriously. The Dynamic Running board has made the decision to postpone or cancel most of our events coming up in the next four months. We are following the recommendation of ANQ (Athletics North Queensland), public health agencies and government authorities and suspending all races, clinics, coaching and training involving 10 or more people until 31 May 2020. A summary is provided [here](#). Athletics North Queensland is the governing body of athletics in North Queensland, which incorporates track and field, road running, trail running, cross country and social walking clubs. Dynamic Running is a member of ANQ.

Unlike the mass event marathons that have thousands and thousands of competitors, Dynamic Running hosts small, niche races. We also provide a vital role in the community in terms of our weekly group training sessions.

Furthermore:

- We have less than 200 competitors per race.
- We have cancelled all meetings and gatherings in any enclosed areas.
- Our races, including check-ins prior to a race, are outdoors.
- We don't hold expos as our events are only small.
- Our athletes don't get cramped together on the start line as we often have early starters and staggered starts for different race distances.
- With a wide range of abilities, our field of competitors spread out very quickly and often run alone or in small groups of 2-3 people.
- Due to the nature of our events, spectator numbers are extremely low.
- We mostly run on a skeleton volunteer crew, so checkpoint only have one or two volunteers.
- We are currently meeting for club runs in groups of 10 or less and following strict social distancing measures.

I'm still going...

The number of cases of COVID-19 in Australia continue to grow with no end in sight. We will continue to monitor information and restrictions set out by the Australian government and local councils and abide to those. That will be the main reason for any future cancellations. We will be sure to keep you updated on a regular basis as things change.

Stakeholders we rely on to host our events include three local councils, Main Roads, the QPWS and the Queensland Police. Furthermore we liaise with two local schools to use their grounds and require permission from tour operators to access Copperlode Dam.

Our sponsors, Tailwind Nutrition Australia and Trinity Beach Pharmacy have been very supportive of our efforts for many years and we really appreciate it.

Finally:

It may surprise most of you that although we have been around since April 2014, we have made hardly any profit on our signature events during that time. Still, we have continued to host these events because we do it for the love our sport of running and actively encourage anyone to join in and have a go – be that on the footpaths in leafy Redlynch Valley or in the tropical rainforests surrounding our town. And we love our Club members and volunteers who support us through thick and thin. And yes, we do enjoy showing off our beautiful part of the world to visitors and independent runners travelling in to do our events. We are going to miss everyone during this time of 'social distancing' and as runners ourselves (I for one am missing out on running my 9th 3M3D and 5th Comrades Marathon this year) we can fully understand your confusion, frustration and helplessness with the current situation. We appreciate your patience while we sort out the refunds with Register Now.

Please bear in mind that everyone in our club work as volunteers and all of us have full-time jobs. We will respond to enquiries as quickly as possible, but please first go to [our webpage](#) and if you can't find an answer to your question there, only then [send us an email](#).

Phew! Thanks for your dedication if you made it all the way through all this information. Go outside for a run, ponder your options and then check your email for the link to let us know what you intend to do.

Regards,

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